

ALDI SPECIAL BUYS

by Harry Dunn
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I enjoy the weekly shop,
At Foodworks, Coles and Woolies,
Especially the "Specials"
Sometimes offered by these bullies,
But when I need a stronger dose of retail therapy
The centre isle at Aldi is the only place for me.

Aldi stacks his basic lines along the outer isles
With a minimum of colour and invention,
And this is where the Mrs. fills her shopping trolley,
But it's the *centre* isle which gets *my* undivided male attention,
For this is where old Aldi puts his specials on display,
The ones which grace his flyers, for those who get there early
At eight a.m. mid-week, and again on Saturday
Sadly, Aldi's super specials are infrequently repeated
His supply-lines seem disjointed,
So you must get there bright and early,
Or you'll leave without your special, disappointed,
At best, you'll live to fight another day.

Those centre isles are packed with all kinds of tempting stuff
Mostly things I'll never use, but at such crazy prices
I cannot get enough.
I love to see what's in that isle
Or likely to turn up;
Last week I bought two cordless drills,
A doormat for the house, and a kennel for the pup,
And a new, improved Swiss Army Knife, with enamel plate and cup.
There's screws and stews and tennis shoes,
There's big boy's toys and bikes and buoys
And things with zips which won't do up
There's blenders, mixers, dryers, fixers,
Fryers, pliers, wheels and tyres:
There's lamps and ramps and books of stamps,
Pots and pans and printers,
Cleaners, sanders, soft-stuffed pandas,
Patent potions and elixirs
There's stuff for ants, men's underpants,
Rat poison and weed-killer
There's potted plants and creepers,
Two-pack mix for a cheap quick-fix
On dents in family cars;
They call it body-filla.

There seems no rhyme nor reason
To Aldi's choice of product,
In his range of Special Buys,
Week by week it seems to jump

From garage, kitchen, office, loo and formal diner,
To bedroom, bathroom, baby's needs, sometimes simply junk
Just so long as it looks nice and cheap
And made in a place called China.
One knows not what he'll leave with when he enters Aldi-land
Although he came to purchase food,
It's The Special Buys in that central isle,
That catch his roving eye, and ignite the buying fire,
Old Aldi knows well how to bait his trap,
To catch the Impulse Buyer.

Two weeks back, *we* shopped at Aldi's
To get a few essentials, just to clean and feed ourselves,
Things like veggies for the fridge,
And tinned stuff for the shelves,
Rot-gut for the wine-rack and paper for the lavvy;
I left all this to Mrs D, for on such mundane matters
She's very shopping - savvy.
I wandered down to the centre isle
Where the weekly specials are on view,
And soon found myself enamoured of some items I could use
And I don't mean just one or two!
I bought a pair of sky-lights (*requiring two to lift*)
And a set of flat-pack cupboards (*some assembly is required*)
A box of powered gadgets (*batteries not included*)
One day these might make a useful gift,
And some electrical equipment (*must by tradesman be re-wired*)

I rejoined my better half, the charming Mrs. D
Saying, I've just bought some Aldi Specials,
Only things we badly need, of course,
But they're too heavy to be loaded by just little you and me;
And now we have to get them home,
We will certainly need the trailer,
And we'll also need some lifting gear
To get them on and off,
Do you have a bright idea?

Well, now you come to mention it, she said
I also found a bargain, too good to be ignored,
While you were out there buying clutter for the shed
Like those panel-beating tools and that massive wooden mallet,
I was out the back - which is almost unexplored -
And clinched a super deal, on this two-tonne fork-lift truck,
It comes with spares and wooden pallet,
So, start 'er up and get aboard
We'll drive it to the check-out,
And don't forget to bring your wallet,
Where those credit cards are stored.